

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-07 AID-05 AGR-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /106 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0657

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, MZ, US

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE: LONDON OBSERVER ARTICLE --

"AMERICA WORRIED ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE SNUB"

1. EMBOFF HAS JUST RECEIVED FROM OBSERVER CORRESPONDENT, COLIN LEGUM, COPY OF ARTICLE LEGUM HAS WRITTEN FOR OBSERVER FOREIGN NEWS SERVICE, "AMERICA WORRIED ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE SNUB." ARTICLE IS SIGNED AND DATED WASHINGTON, APRIL 24. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH IS EXTRACT OF PRINCIPAL POINTS.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: THE UNITED STATES IS BEGINNING TO FEEL ANXIOUS ABOUT NOT YET RECEIVING AN INVITATION TO SEND AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO THE MOZAMBIQUE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS ON JULY 25 (SIC)...THE AMERICANS HOPE THAT AS A RESULT OF HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON LAST WEEKEND, PRESIDENT KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA MAY BE WILLING TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES TO AVOID THIS SNUB TO THE UNITED STATES...ALTHOUGH THE US GAVE MODEST SUPPORT TO THE CAUSE OF THE FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF MOZAMBIQUE (FREMLINO) BY SECRETLY HELPING TO FUND THE MOZAMBIQUE INSTITUTE IN TANZANIA THROUGH CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES DURING THE PERIOD OF THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, AMERICAN

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POLICIES DURING THE JOHNSON AND NIXON PERIODS WERE PLAIN-

LY HOSTILE TO FRELIMO...AMERICAN POLICY UNDER NIXON WENT SO FAR AS SPECIFICALLY TO FORBID ITS AMBASSADORS IN AFRICA TO MEET FRELIMO LEADERS. THAT RESTRICTION WAS LIFTED ONLY IN SEPTEMBER, FIVE MONTHS AFTER THE CHANGE OF REGIME AND OF POLICY IN LISBON. THERE ARE, THEREFORE, UNDERSTANDABLE REASONS WHY THE NEW FRELIMO GOVERNMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE SHOULD BE IN NO HURRY TO HOIST THE FLAG OF FRIENDSHIP FOR WASHINGTON...THE PRESENT INTERIM GOVERNMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE RECENTLY SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE GRAIN SHIPMENTS FROM THE US. A CONSIDERABLE EFFORT WAS MADE IN WASHINGTON TO GET AUTHORITY TO SHIP A LARGE CONSIGNMENT OF GRAIN. BUT IN THE END THE OFFER WAS NOT TAKEN UP. THE MOZAMBIQUAN AUTHORITIES EXPLAINED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED SHIPMENTS FROM ROMANIA WHICH MET THEIR IMMEDIATE REQUIREMENTS. THEY ALSO ACCEPTED AN UNPUBLISHED SHIPMENT OF GRAIN FROM SOUTH AFRICA...CLEARLY, FRELIMO IS NOT RUSHING TO WELCOME WHAT IT REGARDS AS A BELATED AMERICAN RECOGNITION OF ITS JUST CAUSE. IT HAS CONSIDERABLE REASON TO FEEL BETTER DISPOSED TO THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AND TO THE SMALLER WEST EUROPEAN NATIONS WHICH HELPED IT IN THEIR MOST DIFFICULT TIMES. BUT NEW DIFFICULTIES LIE AHEAD FOR MOZAMBIQUE. IT IS GOING TO NEED ALL THE FOREIGN AID IT CAN GET. END QUOTE.

3. COPIES BEING POUCHED ADDRESSEES.

RICHARDSON

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